

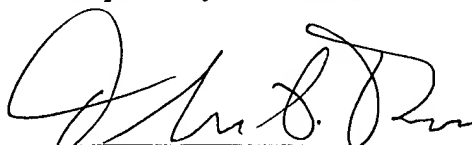
Claims 32-40 are not made obvious by Stonedahl in view of Griner et al.

Claims 32-40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stonedahl in view of Griner et al. However, as discussed in the previous section of this Response, it is respectfully submitted that the enclosed Declaration and its supporting documents establish conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the Stonedahl reference, and the inventor's diligence from prior to said effective date to the filing date of the present application. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Stonedahl has been removed as possible prior art under § 103. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claims 32-40 based upon Stonedahl and Griner et al. are rendered moot.

Conclusions

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-18 and 32-40 are in condition for allowability, and notification to that affect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone if any other matters require resolution prior to issuing a Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas A. Polcyn', written over a horizontal line.

Thomas A. Polcyn
Reg. #41256
THOMPSON COBURN LLP
One US Bank Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
(314) 552-6000